# Mountain Weather Forecast

## Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Monday 26 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Tuesday 27 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Sunday 25 Dec 2022 at 12:55

**Confidence:** High for unsettled conditions, and cold and showery conditions Monday, then often wet and windy weather, but lower confidence in the timing of worst of conditions.

**Headline for Monday 26 Dec 2022:** Some bright or perhaps sunny spells, but rather cold, with showers, these wintry above 300 or 400m and becoming rather frequent by the afternoon.

**Mountain weather hazards on Monday 26 Dec 2022**

**Blizzards**
Medium Likelihood

**Gales**
High Likelihood

**Thunderstorms**
Low Likelihood

**Heavy persistent snow**
Low Likelihood

**Severe chill effect**
High Likelihood

**Heavy persistent rain**
No Likelihood

**Storm force winds**
No Likelihood

**Poor visibility**
Medium Likelihood

**Strong sunlight**
No Likelihood.

| **Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m** | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Time | | | | | | | |
| 00:00 | 03:00 | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 |
| Heavy snow | Partly cloudy (night) | Light snow showers (night) | Heavy snow showers | Heavy snow showers | Heavy snow | Light snow | Light snow |
| Precipitation probability | | | | | | | |
| 60% | 20% | 30% | 40% | 70% | 60% | 50% | 30% |

**Forecast for Monday 26 Dec 2022**

**Weather:** Snow and rain on lower slopes will clear in early hours then cloud breaks for a time but showers will break out by dawn. Then some bright or perhaps sunny spells by day but with showers, these wintry above around 300m and becoming rather frequent and merging in afternoon. Showers will be heavy at times, with blizzards on the tops and possibly the odd rumble of thunder too, but fewer showers in the evening with a few clear spells.

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m** 30 or 40% by the afternoon.

**Low cloud and visibility:** Generally good visibility out of cloud, but falling poor at times in showers and very poor, sometimes close to Nil in snow and within cloud, broken or periods cloud, base 500-700m but perhaps extensive in afternoon with bases lowering to 300 or 400m at times.

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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Forecast for Monday 26 Dec 2022**

| Height (m) | Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) | | | | | Wind Direction (blowing from) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 00:00 | 03:00 | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | 32/40 N | 30/38 NW | 29/37 W | 31/41 W | 36/49 W | 36/48 W | 28/38 W | 18/24 W | 18/23 SW |
| **600** | 20/29 NW | 22/33 NW | 22/32 W | 26/39 W | 31/44 W | 29/43 W | 22/33 W | 15/22 W | 13/20 SW |
| **300** | 12/28 NW | 7/26 NW | 9/27 W | 11/31 W | 15/36 W | 15/37 W | 11/28 W | 7/18 W | 6/17 SW |
| **Valley** | 14/30 N | 6/24 NW | 10/27 W | 13/31 W | 18/37 W | 16/34 W | 12/26 W | 8/18 W | 8/17 W |

| Height (m) | Temperature / Feels Like (°C) | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 00:00 | 03:00 | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | -2/-11 | -3/-12 | -3/-12 | -3/-12 | -3/-12 | -3/-12 | -3/-12 | -3/-10 | -4/-10 |
| **600** | -0/-7 | -1/-8 | -1/-8 | -1/-8 | -0/-8 | -1/-9 | -1/-8 | -1/-7 | -2/-7 |
| **300** | 1/-4 | 0/-3 | 1/-3 | 2/-3 | 2/-3 | 2/-3 | 1/-3 | 1/-2 | 0/-3 |
| **Valley** | 3/-1 | 3/1 | 4/0 | 4/1 | 5/0 | 4/0 | 4/0 | 4/1 | 4/1 |
| **Freezing Level*** | 500m | 300m | 400m | 400m | 500m | 500m | 500m | 500m | 500m |

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

**Meteorologist's View**

Cold with a significant chill at height and risk of disorientation at height in heavy snow and blizzard conditions. Winds stronger in or near showers, with blustery conditions over exposed peaks and ridges and marked buffeting at times.

**Forecast for Tuesday 27 Dec 2022**

**Weather:** A few showers overnight with a frost but cloudy by the end of the night with outbreaks of snow, though rain below 600m by daybreak. Overcast in morning and becoming windy with snow turning to rain, but becoming heavy and prolonged. Rain becoming patchy in the afternoon then clearing to a few showers in the evening.

**Maximum wind:** Southwest 25mph increasing 30-40 gusts 50mph in morning. Turning Westerly in afternoon then easing 25-30mph gusts 40mph in evening.

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m:** 40% by the end of the night and becoming 60% in evening, otherwise generally little change through daylight hours.

**Low cloud and visibility:** Mainly good visibility overnight, but becoming moderate or poor in morning rain, Very poor visibility in summit snow at first and within cloud, periods above 600 or 700m by morning then becoming persistent and lowering to 500m, occasionally lower, though breaking up in evening.

**Temperature:** **Valleys:** Zero to minus 2 C in early hours, rising to plus 4 C by morning then 9 C by the afternoon.
**At 800m:** Minus 3 C rising to plus 1 C by morning, then to plus 4 C for a time
**Freezing level:** Above the tops from daybreak, lowering to 1000m later

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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Ground Conditions Supplement**
Date: Sunday 25 December2022 Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:55 Full report: A very Happy Christmas from Helvellyn! The vast majority of the Lakeland Fells and paths are clear of snow and ice. The little snow that remains lies above 850m, with most above 900m, in sheltered spots and hollows and on steep east and north facing aspects. The only ice encountered today was easy to avoid and located on popular routes where the snow has been compacted. Most of the snow was soft, wet and thawing – it was plus 3 degrees and raining on the summit at midday. The main hazards today were the wet, slippery nature of rocks underfoot combined with the gusty wind. It is definitely essential to concentrate on careful foot placement especially when attempting steep and exposed terrain (such as the Helvellyn Edges). Despite the milder temperatures the summit windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) was minus 5 degrees C, so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including torch, map and compass and the ability to use them in potentially poor visibility such as low cloud are all essential to safely enjoy the fells. The temperatures are forecast to fall tonight and tomorrow, so walkers heading for the higher fells on Boxing Day should expect, and be prepared to encounter, fresh snow. In addition, as the ground is currently saturated and the rocks are wet, verglas (thin ice) may form at higher elevations – as it did last Friday. For this reason, walkers heading for the higher fells and especially those attempting steep and exposed routes (such as Striding and Swirral Edges) should consider carrying an ice axe and microspikes. Goggles are also recommended to lessen the sting of any windblown hail. The Fell Top Assessing team of Zac, Wes and Jon would like to wish all our readers and followers a very Merry Christmas and many enjoyable, memorable and safe days out on the wonderful Lakeland Fells. Temperature: plus 2.8 C, Maximum wind speed 36.1 mph, Wind chill: minus 5.5 C, Average wind speed: 24.7 mph.

Issued at: 1255 on Sun 25 Dec 2022


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